

16 April 2014

Ohau School  
Muhunoa East Road  
R.D. 20  
Ohau 5570

**Attention: Room 3**

Dear Room 3,

**RE: ACOUSTICS ENGINEERING PRESENTATION**

Thank you for your letters Room 3! They were a pleasure to read and I am glad to hear that you enjoyed the presentation as much as I did. Some of you asked questions in your letters so I will do my best to answer them below:

*Grace Harvey asked: "Did you ever think that you would become an Acoustics Engineer?" and "Do you like the big jobs or the small jobs?"*

Hi Grace. I didn't even know that acoustic engineering existed until I was at university! Once I found out about it, I made it my goal at University to work hard so I could become one.

I like both big and small jobs. It is good to have a variety of both sizes.

*La-Quahn Matakatea asked: "Do you ever get sick of travelling around New Zealand?"*

Hi La-Quahn. Sometimes I do get sick of travelling but not very often! New Zealand is such a beautiful country and I am very lucky to see a lot of it (and get paid at the same time!)

*Natalie Bradley asked: "How old do you have to be to become an Acoustic Engineer?"*

Hi Natalie. Generally, you would need to have a degree of some kind from a university to become an Acoustic Engineer but this is not always the case. Assuming you did a four year degree straight after high-school, you would probably be around 22 years old when starting work as an Acoustic Engineer. Although there is no age limit!

*Carla Brick asked why sound differs with hard and soft walls.*

Hi Carla. There is a very long answer to this question but you need to know plenty of maths! If you keep studying maths, maybe I will be able to explain to you one day 😊

*Georgia Bennik asked "What don't you like about your job?" and "What do you enjoy about your job?"*

Hi Georgia. My least favourite thing about my job would be doing noise surveys outside in the winter in the middle of the night. It gets really cold down here in the South Island!!

My favourite things about my job would be the variety of projects, the travel and getting to learn about lots of other types of industries. Oh, and the money is pretty good too!

*Piata Kiriona asked "Can girls be Acoustic Engineers?"*

Of course they can Piata! I have worked with many female Acoustic Engineers! Here are just a small sample of the females that work for us - they are very good!!

- <http://marshallday.com/profile/laura-mcneill-0>
- <http://marshallday.com/profile/yasmin-merwood>
- <http://marshallday.com/profile/brigitte-martin>

*Adrianna Turkington asked "Do you have to do maths when you do engineering?" and "Is it possible to travel around the world to Scotland and other places?"*

Hi Adrianna. Yes, you do need to do maths for engineering but it can be a lot of fun! It is also possible to travel around the world to Scotland and other places! Engineers of all types are in very high demand so it is very easy to get a job almost anywhere in the world. Language is usually the only barrier! So if you learnt Japanese, you could go and work as an engineer in Japan! Who knows, you might even get a job working with Yamaha designing sports bikes!

*Hannah Martin asked "How many Acoustic Engineering companies are there in New Zealand?"*

Hi Hannah. Marshall Day Acoustics is certainly the largest acoustic engineering company in New Zealand and just over 30 NZ based consultants in offices in Christchurch, Wellington, New Plymouth, Hamilton and Auckland. There are plenty of other acoustic engineering companies in New Zealand but most of them are quite small with five or fewer consultants. It is worth mentioning that there are huge companies such as Beca and AECOM that employ all sorts of engineers including acoustics engineers. While these big companies might only employ a handful of acoustics engineers, they may employ more than 10,000 people world-wide! Working for these large companies usually means great travel opportunities! 😊

Thanks again for your questions Room 3. I hope to come back to Ohau School again next year and do another talk!

Yours faithfully

**MARSHALL DAY ACOUSTICS LTD**



**Aaron Staples**  
**Consultant**